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Applicant: CISCO TECHNOLOGY, INC. [US/US]; 170 West Tasman Drive, San Jose, CA 95134 (US).

Inventors: HUGHES, David, A.; 900 High School Way #2230, Mountain View, CA 94041 (US). CHOI, Isaac, P.; 205 Ellyridge Court, San Jose, CA 95123 (US). PADMANABHAN, Radhika; 4199 Monet Circle, San Jose, CA 95136 (US). FERNANDES, Neufin, L.; 7506 Shadowhill Lane, Cupertino, CA 95014 (US). BUCKLEY, William, P.; 6556 Jernie Court, San Jose, CA 95120 (US). LAWRENCE, Jeremy, R.; 319 N. Third Street #2, San Jose, CA 95112 (US).

Agents: VINCENT, Lester, J. et al; Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, 7th floor, 12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026 (US).

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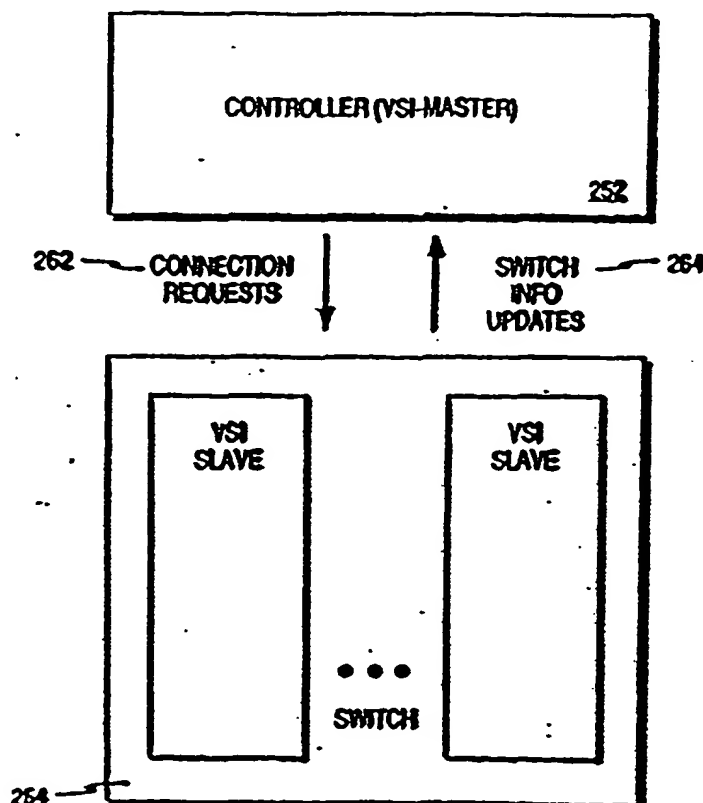
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Title: A CONNECTION CONTROL INTERFACE FOR MULTISERVICE SWITCHES

Abstract

A connection control interface for a network is provided. The connection control interface allows the multiservice switch to provide a number of independent resource partitions to a number of independent controllers coupled to the switch. Switch resource partitions comprise a series of subsets of switch resources that are a number of independent subset networks of a physical network. The connection control interface allows the independent controllers to control the connections on a switch using the number of switch resource partitions. The independent controllers each use one of a number of control systems, the control systems comprising network software level. The independent controllers comprise a virtual switch architecture having a master component and a slave component where the master and slave components may be hosted on different processors. The slave components may be hosted on a control card that contains a number of port cards of the switch and a port card processor. The switch independent controllers are resynchronized when discrepancies are detected between the connections on the switch and expected by the each of the plurality independent controllers.



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